

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Two are, Minnesota Corn Processors and Hastings, that, or Chief, are both on line. Cargill is being built. Minnesota Corn Processors is expanding. Those are the ones using the fund. York is being built. Aurora is in the talking stage.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Thank you. The reason I wanted to make that clear again is because the argument is made that, well, gee, we have to assure these people that this is going to be done. We have to put all this money in here now to give them that assurance and yet they're all building the plants. They've all proceeded merrily along, they've already put their construction money into it. Two of them are already producing, so, obviously, they do not need the assurance of every penny of the money being there now because that money hasn't been there to date, in fact, none of it is there now hardly. So my argument to you is that they need assurances, but obviously they don't need the assurance of having an excessive amount of money in the fund. And so I think you could make it a little easier on the producers and not have them obligated right now for a penny tax and keep it at three-quarters for now. If you keep it at three-quarters, I wish to remind you again that with the amendment, the total amount of money in the fund at the end would be 70 million. That's within that range of a low estimate of 45 million and a high estimate of 85 million. It's in the upper part of that estimated deficit and remember that a couple years from now we'll have more information upon which to act at which time we may want to do more public financing if we're in good shape, we may want to do less if we're in bad shape. You've got a million other things out there you're going to have to deal with in two years, you may want to think about what the proper proportion should be instead of committing yourself right now to this one program that is going to stay in place for seven years and produce what I think is an excessive amount of money. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Madam President, members of the body, I stand to oppose the Beutler amendment. With these plants going up, I don't think we can say, well, we're going to check, we're going to check back in a couple of years and see how you're going, and like Senator Beutler says, the plants are going up. The Cargill plant in Blair grows every day. Just remember, next March there is going to be 150 employees paying sales tax and income tax to